



Candance Anderson

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Candance Anderson

SCHOOL: Blue Ridge Elementary

Position: Head Start/ECEAP Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 27 years

Q. What are some of the lessons your students are working on?

A. Since it's fall, we're talking about leaves and the changing of the season. I'll take the students on a nature walk at the Veterans Administration. We'll look for various shaped leaves and study the different types of trees. They develop their observation skills and learn how to notice differences and likenesses.

Q. How does this activity help students learn other skills?

A. We do drawings to help students develop their fine motor skills. The students look at the lines on the leaves and learn how to draw them. A big part of preschool is helping students learn how to properly hold pencils, crayons and markers. It's important for them to know how to copy shapes and forms.

Q. Why do you spend a lot of time helping students develop social skills?

A. I really feel it's important to teach students to work well in a group. This is one of the most important skills they need to have before going to kindergarten. Of course we also work on colors, counting, the ABCs and other academic skills. But I really believe learning how to work in a group, listening, being a friend and the other social skills are critical for them to be successful in kindergarten.

Q. What are some of the challenges you face in working with preschool students?

A. Many of our families are struggling financially and the students don't get the time they need with their parents. We have many families with parents working two jobs or single mothers and even some are homeless. We work really hard with parents to support them at home. Head Start/ECEAP has always believed in involving the parents as the child's primary teacher. We make home visits, develop goals for their child's learning and encourage parents to spend time in the classroom.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
CANDANCE ANDERSON'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM CANDANCE...
I believe in getting kids off to a good start in school. Many of our students come from families that are struggling. We're providing students support they would not be getting without this program. It makes a difference.

Our parents do care about their children, but many are struggling financially. If you have not walked in those shoes, you really don't understand what they are going through.



I believe strongly in helping students develop social skills so they can work effectively in groups, listen and understand directions and rules.